

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 AGRE-00 USIA-06 AID-05 AF-08 ARA-06

EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 COME-00 ISO-00 TRSE-00 OIC-02

/078 W

-----270118Z 055708 /71

R 261640Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2394

INFO AMEMBASSY BERN

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY DUBLINE

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY HELSINKI

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TAGS: EFIN, AID, FAO, OCON,

SUBJECT: ROME IFAD CATEGORY I MEETING, JANUARY 25

SUMMARY: CHRISTIAN WILL, FRG COORDINATOR FOR IFAD AFFAIRS, MET

WITH ROME GROUP OF IFAD CATEGORY I COUNTRIES TO BRIEF

THEM ON JANUARY 21 DAC MEETING ON IFAD. WILL STRESSED

ADVANTAGE OF ROME AS IFAD SITE, NEED TO ASSURE DECISION

IS ON BASIS OF SECRET VOTE, AND URGENCY OF ACTIONS ON ITALIAN SIDE AS WELL AS BY REST OF CATEGORY I MEMBERS. ITALIANS HAVE MADE DEMARCHE TO MANY CATEGORY III COUNTRIES AND ARE PREPARED TO OFFER BUILDING SITE TO IFAD. WILL EMPHASIZED NEED TO AGREE ON TACTICS AND NEED FOR MORE IFAD EXPERTS IN CATEGORY I COORDINATING MEETINGS. WILL IS CONSIDERING HOLDING NEXT COORDINATING MEETING OF CATEGORY I MEMBERS MARCH 17-18 HERE IN ROME IF FACILITIES AVAILABLE. HE IS ALSO WORRIED ABOUT FACILITIES FOR CATEGORY I MEETINGS IN TEHRAN. END SUMMARY

1. AUSTRALIAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO FAO CALLED A MEETING OF IFAD CATEGORY I COUNTRIES ON JANUARY 25 TO HEAR CHRISTIAN WILL OF FRG DESCRIBE DAC MEETING ON IFAD SITE AND PRESIDENCY.

2. WILL MADE FOLLOWING POINT:

(A) DAC MEETING REACHED AGREEMENT ON ADVANTAGE OF ROME AS SITE FOR IFAD. SWEDEN WAS ONLY EXCEPTION IN SUPPORT FOR ROME, BUT EARLIER IN BRUSSELS DENMARK ALSO EXPRESSED VIEW THAT DECISION DID NOT HAVE TO BE MADE YET.

(B) MEETING ALSO AGREED THAT QUESTION OF IFAD SITE AND PRESIDENCY SHOULD NOT BE LINKED TOGETHER BUT RATHER SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AS A PACKAGE.

(D) MOST IMPORTANT WAS AGREEMENT ON THE NEED FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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A SECRET VOTE ON THE SITE OF IFAD IN THE GOVERNING COUNCIL, RULE 35.

(D) THERE WAS GENERAL SYMPATHY, BUT NO DECISION, FOR SAUDIA ARABIAN CANDIDACY OF AL-SUDEARY AS PRESIDENT OF IFAD.

(D) UNFORTUNATELY THERE WAS NO AGREEMENT ON FUTURE TACTICS BEYOND EXPRESSED DESIRE TO AVOID CONFRONTATION WITH OPEC ON SITE QUESTION.

(F) FINALLY THERE WAS AGREEMENT TO MEET AGAIN AFTER MARCH 15, BUT BEFORE SCHEDULED IFAD PREPARATORY MEETING IN TEHRAN ON APRIL 4-8, 1977.

3. WILL THEN WENT ON TO DESCRIBE HIS CHANCE MEETING WITH MANSURI, IRANIAN REPRESENTATIVE TO FAO, ON JANUARY 24. MANSURI HAD ALREADY LEARNED FROM SOMEWHERE RESULTS OF DAC MEETING AND WAS EN ROUTE TO TEHRAN TO PLAN AND OR-

GANIZE QUOTE FORCES UNQUOTE TO WIN SITE FOR TEHRAN.

4. WILL ALSO TURNED TO ITALIAN PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE BORIN AND MADE IT CLEAR THAT ITALY HAD TO WORK ON WINNING ROME FOR SITE AND THIS MEANT SEEKING SUPPORT IN CATEGORY III COUNTRIES AND CLEAR OFFER OF HEADQUARTERS SITE IN ROME BUT SEPARATE FROM FAO. WILL EMPHASIZED IMMEDIACY OF THESE ACTIONS ON ITALY'S PART. HE ALSO EMPHASIZED SHORTNESS OF TIME. FINALLY IN ORDER TO AVOID CONFRONTATION AND SAVE FACE, WILL BELIEVES CATEGORY I COUNTRIES SHOULD INDIVIDUALLY STRESS THE NEED FOR A SECRET VOTE AND THEIR PREFERENCE FOR ROME AND NOT EMPHASIZE THIS AS A CATEGORY I POSITION IN THEIR CONTACTS WITH CATEGORY III COUNTRIES.

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5. BORIN REPLIED THAT ITALY HAD MADE A DEMARCHE TO MANY CATEGORY III COUNTRIES AND HAD RECEIVED ENCOURAGING, POSITIVE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TIVE SUPPORT FOR ROME FROM MANY LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES AND SOME AFRICAN COUNTRIES. SOME 20 COUNTRIES HAVE EITHER NOT REPLIED TO ITALY OR TEMPORIZED. BORIN PROMISED A LIST OF SPECIFIC COUNTRY REPLIES. BORIN ALSO ASSURED GROUP THAT ITALY WOULD MAKE A SUITABLE BUILDING AVAILABLE TO IFAD, PROBABLY IN EUR, BUT ITALY NEEDED SITE REQUIREMENTS IN WRITING FROM IFAD. AZIZ, IFAD EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, IS PREPARING SUCH A LIST. FINAL PROBLEM ACCORDING TO BORIN IS A HEADQUARTERS AGREEMENT BETWEEN IFAD AND GOI. GOI PLANNED TO OFFER ROUGHLY SAME AGREEMENT AS GIVEN FAO, BUT IFAD'S FIRST DRAFT DEMANDS MUCH MORE AND IS UNACCEPTABLE TO GOI. BORIN ASSURED THAT ITALY WOULD FULLY MEET IFAD'S STATED REQUIREMENTS, BUT SAID ITALY WOULD NOT BE PUT IN POSITION OF HAVING TO MEET OR TOP IRANIAN BIDS.

6. OTHER POINTS DISCUSSED BUT NOT CONCLUSIVELY WERE AL-SUDEARY'S SUGGESTION TO POSTPONE A DECISION ON IFAD SITE UNTIL END OF PRESIDENT'S FIRST TERM. COUNTRIES' VIEWS VARIED ON THIS DEPENDING ON THEIR VIEW OF WHETHER ROME HAD A BETTER CHANCE FOR SELECTION NOW OR AFTER BEING TEMPORARY HOST FOR THREE YEARS AND FEAR OF A CONFRONTATION WITH IRAN. CLEAR POSITIONS WERE NOT TAKEN, BUT A NUMBER OF REPRESENTATIVES MADE FAVORABLE NOISES TOWARD POSTPONEMENT. ON THE CONTRARY, MOST COUNTRIES WERE CRITICAL OF SO-CALLED ELIMINATION PROCEDURE IN SELECTION OF SITE.

7. CANADIAN REPRESENTATIVE INFORMED GROUP THAT IFAD SECRETARIAT WAS HAVING PROBLEM BOOKING FLIGHT TO TEHRAN FOR APRIL IFAD PREPARATORY COMMISSION MEETING AND THAT HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS WERE ALREADY SCARCE. WILL ALSO UNDERLINE NEED FOR CATEGORY I MEETINGS IN TEHRAN AND WONDERED IF U.S. EMBASSY COULD PROVIDE CONFERENCE ROOM IF NECESSARY.

8. JAPAN REITERATED ITS POSITION, THAT IFAD PRESIDENTIAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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DENCY AND SITE SHOULD GO TO DONOR COUNTRIES, THAT BOTH SITE AND PRESIDENCY SHOULD NOT GO TO SAME CATEGORY, SECRET BALLOT ON SITE, SITE MORE IMPORTANT THAN ROME, AND THAT ONE SHOULDN'T TAKE RIGID POSITIONS YET.

9. ALPEN (AUSTRALIA) NOTED HIS COUNTRY'S POSITION THAT NOW IFAD EXISTED IT WAS WRONG TO USE DAC AS COORDINATING BODY FOR CATEGORY I COUNTRIES OF IFAD. WILL HAD PREVIOUSLY LAMENTED FEW REAL IFAD EXPERTS AT DAC MEETING AND AGREED WITH AUSTRALIAN POINT. HE THEN EMPHASIZED NEED FOR IFAD EXPERTS AT NEXT MEETING OF CATEGORY I COUNTRIES AFTER MARCH 15. HE ALSO THEN INDICATED PREFERENCE FOR MEETING IN ROME AND REQUESTED ALPEN TO CHECK FOR HIM EMBASSIES' CONFERENCE FACILITIES IN ROME. HE ALSO RECEIVED AGREEMENT FROM ROME-BASED FRENCH AND SPANISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES FOR NEXT MEETING TO BE HELD IN ENGLISH WITHOUT TRANSLATION FACILITIES. FINALLY GROUP WITH WILL AGREED ON TWO-DAY MEETING OF CATEGORY I COUNTRIES MARCH 17 AND 18. AGENDA WOULD INCLUDE SITE, PREXIDENCY, TACTICS, LENDING CRITERIA, SUDEARY POSTPONEMENT PROPOSAL, AND ELIMINATION PROCEDURE. LOCUS OF NEXT MEETING WAS LEFT TO WILL WITH STRONG PREFERENCE FOR ROME DEPENDING ON OUTCOME OF ALPEN REVIEW OF FACILITIES (JAPANESE, UK, CANADA, AND U.S. ALL HAVE ADEQUATE CONFERENCE ROOM FACILITIES). BEAUDRY

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